20734

4/2/66

Dear Sylvia,

Belatedly, many thanks for a pleasant, relaxing and informative afternoon. Although as recently as yesterday afternoon there was no available copy of M of O in DC and four or five stops in the Village Tuesday disclosed none, hence I do not know what Salandria has written, I have seen the FBI report and it contains what you quoted and a little more that is quite in point (and in my book from another source). Several days ago I added a short section to my book. It is, as you say, quite important; yet save for the slight penetration of the bullet, it adds nothing except the source to what I already had, if you recall my handling of that section. Source alone, of course, is of the utmost importance.

Thanks also for the Thermofaxed stuff and the mag. My Thermofax is worse than yours! But yours is bad enough! I read the forensic material but nothing else all treadmilling week. Things look much better in England than I thought. I had a letter today from the prospective publisher who describes himself as "enthusiastic" and have an agent, so they can negotiate their heads off as long as they leave mine on.

Why don't we try and arrange to see the movie, etc., the same day. I think also that in the near future more of this will be available, and I'd suggest you do not rush. Dr. Rhoads is on indefinite sick leave, but those he left behind are very decent and especially the assistant has a deep conviction of the responsibility of an archivist. In short, I think that in from 2-4 weeks you will accomplish more than you can sooner. I know who to keep in touch with to find what is available (He's checking on Nix, Muchmore, copyrights and classification, etc.) and will let you know. There is now available a list of what is available. It costs $37.00 in Thermofax and $9.50 in microfilm. I cannot afford the former and cannot use the latter.

I have been thinking and when we again meet I'll tell you what I have in mind that I think may appeal to you and do you and all of us some good. For the moment, may I just encourage you to spend what time you have in concentration on Ruby?

While I agree with your red-typed note that the FBI report vindicates all of us I cannot agree that it in itself "proves the whole of the medical evidence has been fabricated" There remains the certainty of error in the FBI report, and while I am confident in its description of this wound (Kellerman and the inability to probe, for example) the FBI is right, remember the climate in which we are working. Recall the obvious answer that the Commission explored further and "made sense" out of misunderstandings, etc., which are possible and can today find acceptance.

Lane's book is in galley and I'm not happy about it. I learned some of its approach and contents from an executive editor who rejected it and is hot about mine. He even whines. It has been offered in galley to a US publisher who told me he has promised to read it. It is not the publisher of whom I was originally told, Bodley-Head, but Allen and Unwyn(?). I will tell you sometime of my personal shame at not having approached World, which is going to do Sauvage's. They were at the top of my list but I did not approach them for a reason that wrongly seemed good to me. If I've forgotten anything, I'll try and remember and write when I have something.